and Neyyattinkara were also to be completed during the year. But these results have not yet been attained although the Peishkar and his subordinates were unremitting in their efforts to push on with the work. As already observed there was some unavoidable delay in commencing the work under the new scheme. But there are also other causes for the delay which are now engaging the attention of Government. There is still a tendency in the Department to relapse into the old methods of working, avoiding working in the field and doing all work from head offices by carrying on correspondence with the subordinates. This is against the spirit of the new scheme. I hope to be able to inspect the work in the field more largely than I have done hitherto in view to ensure strict adherence to the instructions laid down in the scheme. It is also in contemplation to frame a revised forecast in the light of the experience gained during the past year. The Settlement Peishkar is now engaged in this work and every endeavour will be made to introduce such modifications as may be necessary to secure the early completion of Settlement work under the scheme.

Very good progress was made in the printing of the Settlement Registers during the year. The registers for Trivandrum, Chirayinkil and Nedumangad taluks had been printed and those of Kartigapalli put on hand when the year closed. This is also due to the special efforts put forth in this direction under the new scheme and the Trivandrum taluk which was settled 17 years ago is now furnished with printed registers ready for reference.

In connection with the work of viruthi settlement under the new scheme the question of assigning lands for Munnila service and for collection of vital statistics came up for consideration. As the system was found to be a source of hardship to the service inam holders and much inconvenience to Government it was abolished during the year and orders issued for the employment of a stipendiary staff, the lands being enfranchised on full pattom.

5. **Legislation.**—During the last year four Regulations were passed.

I. To make provision for the care of the person and estates of Lunatics.

II. To amend Regulations I of 1040 and II of 1052 relating to Breaches of Contract.

III. To prevent loss to Government by the default or misconduct of Public Accountants.

IV. To consolidate and amend the Law relating to Stamps.

Bills to consolidate and amend the law relating to Revenue Officers and the Land Revenue, and to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure were introduced during the year, and leave was granted to introduce Bills to amend the law relating to Civil Courts and the High Court Regulations.

6. **Police.**—The strength of the Police was 1,728 men. The proportion of policemen to area and population was 1 to 5·004 square miles and 1 to 2,083 of the population respectively. The number of cognizable cases registered during the year was 4,494, of which 1,761 were referred as false. Of the 2,663 cases charged 2,117 ended in conviction. It is satisfactory to note that the percentage of property recovered, 57·3, shows an increase over that of the previous year, 48·7.

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